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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL QUARANTINE REGULATIONS FOR FRUIT VESSELS PLYING BETWEEN FRUIT PORTS OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES SOUTH OF THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF MARYLAND.

[Department Circular No. 65, 1906. Bureau of Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, July 5, 1906.

To United States consular officers, masters and owners of vessels, collectors of customs, national, State, and local quarantine officers, and others:

To permit vessels plying between fruit ports of Central America, where yellow fever is known to exist, and United States ports, to enter ports of the United States south of the southern boundary of Maryland without detention, the following alternative to paragraph 13 of Department Circular No. 32, 1906, is hereby promulgated and will remain in force until further notice.

Said paragraph 13 of Department Circular No. 32, 1906, is as follows:

13. Fruit vessels plying between United States ports and fruit ports where yellow fever is known to exist will not be admitted to entry under the provisions of these special regulations until they have been not less than five days from the port of departure before being admitted to pratique at the quarantine station at the port of arrival.

Whenever the master or agent of the vessel so desires, the following alternative is offered:

Measures to be enforced at southern ports of the United States.

Fruit vessels plying between ports of the United States and fruit ports where yellow fever is known to exist will be permitted to enter as soon as the crew, except the master and chief engineer, shall have been removed from the vessel and placed in quarantine at the station, and the living quarters of the vessel thoroughly fumigated and a new crew placed in charge. The quarantine officer at the port of arrival shall certify the number of the crew removed, and shall compare and verify the same with the bill of health of the vessel.

Immediately after unlading at the dock all parts of the vessel shall be simultaneously fumigated for the destruction of mosquitoes with 2 pounds of sulphur per 1,000 cubic feet of space. After such fumigation lading for outgoing cargo may commence.

The new crew will accompany the vessel to the quarantine station, when change of crew will again take place. If the vessel departs without cargo the vessel may be fumigated en route to quarantine. The relief crew shall then remain at quarantine for the arrival of another vessel or until relieved by the quarantine officer.

Two sets of quarters shall be maintained at the quarantine station, one for the local crew and one for the crew of incoming vessels, and both quarters shall be fumigated immediately after being vacated.

The requirements of these provisions, and each step and detail thereof, shall be certified by the proper quarantine officer before clearance papers are granted.

L. M. SHAW, *Secretary.*

[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

Report from South Atlantic quarantine station, Ga.—Smallpox on Sapelo Island.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Gwyn reports, June 29, as follows:

An additional case of smallpox has occurred on Sapelo Island. The patient, age about 20 years, arrived from a sawmill located about 2 miles from Brunswick, Ga., about June 25.

Report from West Pascagoula, La.—Sanitary inspection.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Francis reports, June 20, as follows:

Nearly all the residences have cisterns or rain barrels which are not properly screened. I found *Stegomyia* without difficulty.

Report from Gulfport, Miss.—Sanitary measures recommended—Enteric fever.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Ames reports, July 1, as follows:

The sanitary status of Gulfport and vicinity remains unchanged. The alarm caused by the rumors following the announcement of yellow fever at Ship Island has subsided and there is everywhere a feeling of confidence that neither a recrudescence nor a reintroduction of fever will occur this season.

By a visit to the quarantine station and the prompt investigation of several reports, I have been able to contribute in some measure to allaying this public apprehension, but I have not succeeded in arousing the proper degree of community of effort to effect a thorough sanitary policing.

As reported last week, while waiting the completion of the sewage system the sanitation of premises is neglected. I have called the attention of all the leading physicians and many responsible business men to the danger from these conditions, pointing out the possibilities of a general enteric epidemic which this might cause. The city council has promised to take the matter up at its next meeting, July 3, and provide means for inspection and general sanitation.